



JET GAZETTE

**The Newspaper of the 141st Air Refueling Wing • WA ANG • Fairchild AFB
Serving Air Guard Members and Their Families in Eastern Washington**

A special relationship continues to link 141st with Geilenkirchen

By Maj. Kay Steward

A few months back when the Spokane Lilac Armed Forces Committee was deep in the preparation of this year's parade, Maj. Hal Westbrook thought what an honor it would be if Brig. Gen. Stieglitz could be the honorary grand marshal, joining Lt. Gen. Walter Hogle, Jr., 15th Air Force Commander as the grand marshal. His suggestion was well received and approved.

For the 141st, this gesture had special meaning. Brig. Gen. Klaus-Peter Stieglitz, of Germany, is the NATO commander at Geilenkirchen Air Base, Germany. Stieglitz and the NATO base and surrounding community of Geilenkirchen has overwhelmed the 141st with support following the loss of four aircrew and a KC-135E in the January 1999 crash.

Shortly after the crash, Stieglitz personally gathered the remaining 25 deployed members of the 141st and passed on his condolences. The community put together a memorial service a few days later and donations poured in.

In January, on the first anniversary of the

loss, Col. Wynne attended a memorial dedication at Geilenkirchen AB while the wing had a memorial of its own at Fairchild.

When Brig. Gen. Stieglitz arrived on May 17 at Fairchild AFB for his honorary grand marshal duties he flew in on an AWACS E-3A with the 50th anniversary of NATO paint scheme and an entourage of 18 NATO crewmembers from Germany, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, Turkey and the United States.

Stieglitz was also the keynote speaker at the annual All City Civic Military Luncheon. Upon returning to Germany he was quoted in his base newspaper, "... I am surprised at how much appreciation is shown to the Component by the people of Spokane, Washington. This isn't something I would have expected being a European and the commander of a NATO unit."

Stieglitz was amazed at the size of the Lilac Parade, that was attended by 150,000. He told Col. Wynne, that in Europe, you would never see a military officer in uniform riding in a parade.

Shortly after the general's return to

Brig. Gen. Stieglitz arrived at Fairchild AFB in this NATO 50th anniversary AWACS E-3A



Photo by MSgt. Bob Thackston

Col. Jim Wynne and Brig. Gen. Klaus-Peter Stieglitz, commander of NATO AWACS E-3A Component, Geilenkirchen AB, Germany.

Germany, two aircraft and 60 personnel from the 141st arrived at Geilenkirchen Air Base for the period of May 21-31 to support the AWACS E-3A mission.

On Memorial Day a reception was held at the Geilenkirchen AB fire house for the fire fighters who responded to the scene of the burning aircraft. According to TSgt. Dale Smith, it was apparent the situation touched many lives. In the fire station a wall had been dedicated to the aircrew. It has their pictures, a painted metal Ace of Spades and a dedication plaque. Four large white candles had been lit at the exact time the aircraft had taken off on the day of the crash, Jan. 13, 1999, and extinguished at the time the crash incurred. The candleholders were made from firehose wrapped at the base that were used in the rescue attempt.

The families of three of the aircrew attended the dedication, including the Visintainer family who received permission to fly over to Germany on unit aircraft.

Many deployed members of the 141st visited the site of the crash, now full of life with rows of newly planted oak saplings and a regrowth of underbrush.



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Commander, 141st ARW:

Col. James R. Wynne

141st ARW Public Affairs Officer:

Maj. Kay Steward

Public Affairs Staff:

temporary editor : Maj. Kay Steward,
 contributors: AB Crystal Tyler, SSgt. Wes Walton

Honorary Editor: MSgt. Renee Teston

Photos : 141 ARW Combat Camera



The *Jet Gazette* welcomes articles and ideas that will enhance the paper. If you have suggestions for features or specific articles, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 247-7042 on UTA weekends, or your **Unit Public Affairs Representatives (UPAR)**:

Operations Group

TSgt. Tim Flock x7100

Logistics Squadron

TSgt. Pam Hamel x7780

TSgt. Sam Tweit x7761

Logistics Support Flight

MSgt. Renee Teston x7272

MXS

SrA. Andrea Dellinger x7260

Support Group

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Communications Flight

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141st Medical Squadron

Maj. Scott Nordstrom x7080

MSgt. Dee Sowards x7080

242nd CBCS

2Lt. Michael Beck 458-5449

256th CBCS

Capt. Gent Welsh x7625

Career fair once again a success

For the fourth year the 141st Air Refueling Wing hosted a career fair for 500 high school juniors and seniors in hangar 1029.

Over 45 Inland Empire businesses set up booths and provided career information in business, retail, health care, law enforcement, technical, mechanical, manufacturing, fire protection and the military.

The fair, held on May 17, was coordinated by the Community Colleges of Spokane, School District 81 and Educational Service District 101. Occupational equipment from various careers were exhibited. A

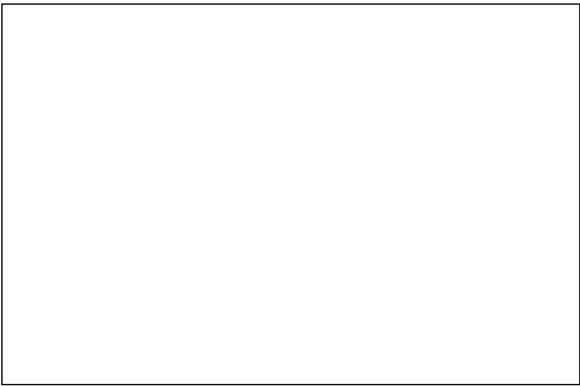


Photo by MSgt. Thackston

KC-135 from the 141st was on static display and the base fire fighting team put on a demonstration.

The speaker was Dan Miller, an author and motivation speaker. Lunch was provided by Costco.

Updated eye surgery medical waiver policy released

By TSgt. Richard B. Searles
 Office of the Surgeon General

Air Force Medical Service officials recently released the Air Force's updated medical waiver policy for individuals with a history of corneal refractive surgery.

Changes to the policy include the addition of Laser Assisted In-Situ Keratomileusis, commonly referred to as LASIK, to the list of corneal refractive surgeries that can be considered for medical waiver during accession.

The only other surgery included in the policy is photorefractive keratectomy or PRK. PRK was previously the only waivable corneal refractive surgery.

Waivers are still not being considered for individuals who have had radial keratotomy or any other corneal refractive surgery.

According to Air Force medical officials, a separate waiver policy for aviation and special duty personnel who have had the PRK procedure will be published in the near future. When published, PRK waivers for aviation and special duty personnel will be limited. Currently, waivers for LASIK are not allowed for aviation and special duty personnel.

Active duty members who obtained PRK or LASIK are not required to meet a medical

evaluation board provided they meet vision standards as defined in AFI 48-123, Medical Examination and Standards. Also, the individual must not have any vision symptoms that would significantly restrict activity.

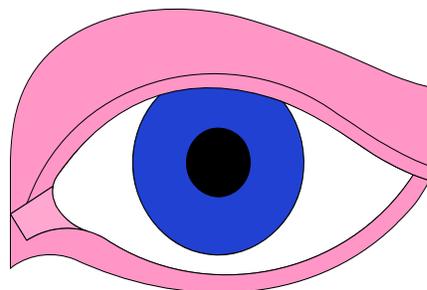
Individuals who have had PRK or LASIK

may be considered for enlistment, commissioning and appointment waiver, if they meet the criteria outlined in the policy.

Note from the 141 Medical Squadron:
While LASIK and PRK surgery do not require medical boards there is

a follow up policy. Members should be profiled P4, not worldwide duty qualified post op, until a letter stating member's vision has stabilized and that he/she is no longer requiring frequent follow-up and is no longer on ophthalmic steroids.

In addition, the following information needs to be forwarded to the 141 MDS for any individual that has refractive eye surgery: copies of medical records including pre-operative eye exam (noting refractive error and keratometry readings) and all operative and procedure reports and follow-up notes performed by the ophthalmologist. For further questions contact SMSgt. Sue Haig, ext. 7081.



The mission of the *Jet Gazette* is to effectively communicate events and information of the 141st Air Refueling Wing to unit members, their families and retirees and to recognize personal and unit achievements within the wing.

Chaplain's office takes on Humvee training

By Maj. Kay Steward

As members of the Air National Guard, we must be ready and trained to do our jobs anywhere in the world. For the chaplains it means they must now take M-998 Humvee driver's ed.

One of the deployment expectations for Chaplain Lt. Col. Tyrone Schaff and MSgt. John Costello, chaplain assistant, who will deploy to Kuwait for AEF in July, is to be able to drive a Humvee to remote sites.

On a six-to-eight mile course with puddles deep enough to sink a Humvee to its windshield, the chaplain and Costello tested

both their limitations and the Humvee's.

"It was a little nerve racking," said Costello. At one place there was a big hill with a sharp right turn at the top. You had to speed up to make the hill and then turn suddenly onto a narrow road with trees within inches of the sides of the Humvee. If you slowed, you wouldn't make the hill."

The 92nd Security Forces Squadron provided the training at the Seven Mile off-road vehicle park.

Chaplain Schaff and Costello now feel prepared to venture off the base in Kuwait to out-of-the-way Marine and Army outposts



92nd Security Forces photo

Chaplain Lt. Col. Schaff and MSgt. John Costello making the plunge in a Humvee

providing religious services, counseling and good-will visits to troops.

Enjoy your adventure, but still be careful.



Photo by 141 Combat Camera

SRA Eric Gustafson, 141 Security Forces Squadron on patrol during readiness training at Farragut State Park

Wing members learn from each other during readiness training

By Maj. Kay Steward

Some real down in-the-dirt action took place at Farragut State Park for 120 wing members fine tuning their readiness training. Personnel from the Security Forces, the Medical Squadron, Combat Camera, Communications Maintenance and the Services Flight participated during April drill.

With each group looking for ways to practice their readiness mission, Farragut offers a versatile training environment.

Security Forces convoyed with 13 vehicles to the park and then rucked in to camp one and a half miles with 30-50 pound packs on their backs. They set up perimeter security, tents, defensive fighting positions, conducted night

land navigations and practiced patrol techniques.

According to SSgt. Tom Shirey, "We took classroom training and applied it to a hands-on environment in the field and also had a good time."

The scenario allowed for mass casualty training for those in the medical squadron practicing moving the wounded on litters, triage and treatment. The "wounded" were based on those who made mistakes rather than being pre-selected. Injuries ranged from gun-shot wounds, to trip wires being set off to tree branches falling on "victims."

Eight communication maintenance specialists set up a command post with radios and antennas and deliberately jammed security forces frequencies. "We taught them not to

rely on one form of communication," said MSgt. Jim Broberg.

Hot meals were provided in the mornings and evenings by three members of Services. A kitchen tent with burners and grills was set up. MRE's were handed out for lunch.

Combat Camera documented the training and along with personnel from Services doubled as aggressors.

All participants agreed: training together helps each component adapt to each other's role and contributes to teamwork. They thought it was great to get out and have exposure to each other's role in their readiness mission. They discovered that sometimes security forces and medical personnel had different procedures such as the removal of casualties. It helped learning of those differences in a training scenario.

15th Air Force Aircrew Standardization/ Evaluation Visit

During March 20 - April 4 the 15th AF ASEV took place at Operations. The 141st received a strong rating with the average aircrew testing score being 99 percent. One boom operator and one pilot received exceptionally qualified grades. It was a tough inspection in which 15 major program areas were graded. The 15th AF Team Chief overall assessment in part states, "From the outset, it was obvious the 141st was very well prepared for this ASEV." Congratulations!!!

Dr. Betances strives to teach ANG members to seek diversity

By Maj. Kay Steward

"My mother is Puerto Rican and my father is black. So, I look like an Arab. I can put my briefcase down at the airport and no one will touch it," said Dr. Samuel Betances as the audience responded with laughter during his diversity training presentation on the April UTA.

Betances, one of the leading motivational keynote speakers in America today, used an abundance of uplifting humor and flawless stage presence to deliver his powerful message with conviction. A high school dropout raised in Harlem, Betances eventually earned a doctorate degree from Harvard.

The National Guard Bureau has contracted Souder, Betances and Associates, Inc., of Chicago to present "Together We Succeed, The Diversity Connection," diversity awareness training for the Air National Guard. On Saturday of the April UTA Dr. Betances spoke to ANG members from the west side of the state and on Sunday the east side.

The Fairchild Air Force Base theater was full on Sunday as Dr. Betances delivered messages of "harnessing the rainbow" of the total work force. The dramatic shifts in demographic and lifestyle patterns coupled with a shrinking workforce is creating a new world order of business that is almost unrecognizable from the business world just a decade ago. To survive and prosper in the coming century we must learn to accommodate diversity in all facets of our operations and reflect the changing face of America.

Ethnic groups that were once referred to as "minorities" are rapidly becoming majorities, now representing over 30 percent of the total U.S. population. Foreign-born persons represent nearly 10 percent of the U.S. population at 23 million. One-fourth of all California residents are foreign born.

Diversity has been identified as being essential to the National Guard, as the Guard strives to represent a cross-section of our communities. And it is not, says Dr. Betances about counting heads, but rather, about making heads count

Lt. General Russell Davis, Chief, National Guard Bureau, commented at an NAACP convention, "The military — it cannot be denied — is of society. It must reflect our society. We are an army of people. Our soldiers are citizens first, soldiers second. This is a fundamental part of our founding



Dr. Samuel Betances

Photo by TSgt. Bob Harris

"Media scripts about minorities are often wrong. Take 'West Side Story' as an example. That movie could not have been written by a Puerto Rican. You simply can't go to a Latino neighborhood at 3 a.m. call for Maria and only have one window open," said Dr. Samuel Betances.

father's vision. If that is true, then we must be inclusive and recruit from 100 percent of our population."

"Diversity is not about counting heads, but making heads count."

Davis also commented on President Truman's Executive Order of 1948 that largely accomplished this goal for our military. "We were so successful that we serve as a model for other organizations. Today, we are suffering as an organization as our young people see opportunity elsewhere in society. The military, once one of the only routes to opportunity, is now just one choice of many as our businesses and institutions have sought diversity."

Maj. Gen. Frank Scoggins, commander, Washington Air National Guard, echoed this message, "For business reasons we need to

attract more people to the ANG. We are not full and neither is the rest of the military. We need to find more people whose passions and talents can be used."

Dr. Betances states, "the road to diversity is not about white male bashing. The white male made this country what it is and that is what makes it attractive to all that come here."

Betances says that in order to succeed in our society we need to recruit from the broad work force to respond to the ever-changing challenges in the workplace. For example, since women have the largest population base, women constitute the largest source of brain power and must therefore be represented at every level of the organization. Sexism must end. African Americans, as an interest group, have struggled most consistently to eliminate discrimination. Their struggle has proven a blessing to every group seeking to be included, respected and rewarded for their work.

"Diversity is about educating others on how we want to be treated," said Betances.

ANG Financial Management and Comptroller Organization of the Year

By SSgt. Wes Walton

In March the men and women of the 141st Air Refueling Wing Financial Management Office were awarded the Fiscal Year 1999 Air National Guard Financial Management and Comptroller Organization of the Year Award.

The award was presented by the Honorable Mr. Robert F. Hale, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller; and Col. Ronald M. Oberbillig, National Guard Bureau Chief Financial Officer.

Col. James Wynne commented, "The men and women of our Financial Management Office are fully deserving of this award. They have prevailed through all challenges put in front of them and those challenges have been significant. Throughout this year, they were understaffed due to schools and taskings yet service to our organization never faltered.



Photo by TSgt. Bob Harris

141st Financial Management staff: SRA Rona Primrose, TSgt. Cathy Dykman, SSgt. Sunny Faris, TSgt. Laura Shultz, SSgt. Angela Knapp, MSgt. Kellie LaRue, Capt. Mark Fischer, Lt. Col. Nicki Thiot. Not pictured are SRA Rob Chase, SMSgt. Sherrie Cramb, SSgt. Christine Patterson and TSgt. Peggy Rose.

Protect yourself from bloodborne pathogens

Submitted by 141st Medical Squadron

What are bloodborne pathogens? They are diseases that are transmitted between individuals by either blood or other body fluids. Human immunodeficiency virus and hepatitis B are the two most recognized but there are others such as hepatitis C and syphilis. Some of the ways that an infected person can transmit the disease to another person are clinical exposure, sex, birth, needle sticks, splashes, sharing intravenous needles and sharing eating and drinking utensils and foods.

Recognizing exposure is everybody's responsibility. Some of the ways that a person can be exposed are contact with mucous membranes or broken skin by blood, body fluids, semen, vaginal fluids, serum, lymph, cerebrospinal fluid or saliva. The main key to remember in protecting yourself is to recognize that each of these may be potentially infected with a bloodborne pathogen and handle it accordingly. A person may be a carrier of a bloodborne pathogen and not be aware that he or she is a carrier. Handling contaminated sharp objects may expose a person to a bloodborne pathogen.

Recognizing that all body fluids could be infected with a bloodborne pathogen and taking appropriate steps, such as using personal protective equipment is a way to protect yourself against becoming infected. Getting the hepatitis B vaccine, which is a

three-shot series given at one, four and 10-month intervals is another protective measure a person can take. This is a very safe vaccine and is mandatory for those individuals with an increased risk of exposure to a bloodborne pathogen.

What should you do if you are exposed to a bloodborne pathogen? The first thing you should do is report the incident to your supervisor IMMEDIATELY. Identify the source person if possible. Report for medical care as soon as possible. Notify Public Health if you were exposed while on duty in any status.

All personnel who are at risk for exposure for bloodborne pathogens should have at their disposal a bloodborne pathogen disposal kit. This kit should contain a pocket mask, disposable latex gloves, cleaning solution (chlorine bleach), a small scoop, plastic goggles, 4x4 gauze pads, a protective apron, and hazardous waste disposal bags. This kit is used to clean up a body fluid spill. The kit will prevent the person from being exposed to a bloodborne pathogen.

In the 141 ARW, there is an exposure control plan that helps protect members with potential workplace exposures. Those identified with potential exposure include medical, civil engineering, life support, security forces, mortuary affairs personnel and those members required by the Air Force to be first aiders.

Even with the events of this past fiscal year that included a major deployment in support of the Presidential Selective Reserve Call-up, this office won the 1999 Air National Guard Top Dollar Competition June 1999. That was a remarkable achievement and took all of them pulling together to make this happen. We're very proud of our Financial Management Office."

Finance News

By SSgt. Wes Walton

Question: You're on orders performing temporary duty at a remote destination. You've just completed your mission and are waiting to board your commercial airline flight at the airport when the flight attendant asks you if you would like to give up your seat in exchange for an incentive because the flight is overbooked. Can you take the incentive?

Answer: Yes. Reference DFAS 7010.3 para 12-37, states that travelers may keep payments from airlines when they voluntarily vacate their seats on overbooked flights; however, any additional expenses incurred (hotel, per diem, cab fare, etc.) must be borne by the traveler. Also, appropriate leave must be charged for additional time away from the permanent duty station because of the delay.

In contrast, compensation for travel costs due to relinquishing a seat involuntarily due to overbooking is the responsibility of the government. Payments must be turned into your finance office.

Further questions can be directed to the 141st Finance Office at 247-7010.

PEOPLE

Meet the new IG



Photo by SSgt. Dave Andersen

Major Karen Azzinnaro, formerly the Education Officer, is the new wing inspector general representing the 141st ARW. This position is one of 88 IG positions the Air National Guard added. Each position has a three-year limitation.

The purpose of an IG is to be able to solve issues at the local unit level. Previously, the state IG or local Air Force bases handled inquiries. The IG's main responsibility is to prevent fraud, waste and abuse.

"I see this position as a way to open more communication lines," says Azzinnaro. "If a guard member has gone through their chain of command and still isn't satisfied with how their situation is addressed they can pursue it through the IG."

If a unit member is considering contacting the IG remember: be honest and don't provide misleading or incomplete information;

support your claim with evidence; keep in mind IG's are not policy makers; they can only recommend, not order a resolution.

"I start with a fact finding mission, but solve the issues through communication," says Azzinnaro. "I force supervisors to look into and find out why a situation is being addressed."

The IG complaint program is described in AFI 90-301. This is a formal complaint program of the Air Force and Air National Guard. No one may act against you just because you complained.

The location of Major Azzinnaro's office is in building 2001D, room 304. The office is located in the hallway between the Support Group Commander's office and Security Forces. The telephone number is 247-7064 and the voice mail is checked regularly.



Photo by SMSgt. Dave Maxwell

Congratulations TSgt. Jeney

TSgt. Dennis Jeney, from 141 MXS, was selected for the Armed Forces Person of the Year in the senior enlisted guard/Reserve category by the Spokane Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee.

Jeney was honored at two luncheons, one by the Spokane Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee and the other by the Spokane Lilac Festival Association.

TSgt. Jeney's long list of awards includes the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Air Force Achievement Medal for deploying to Budapest, Hungary, during Operation Allied Force. He is assigned to the Aircraft Hydraulic Systems Section. His responsibilities are to maintain, inspect, replace, repair, overhaul and trouble shoot the KC-135E aircraft hydraulic systems and its components.

Known in his company as the "Chicken Man," Jeney and his wife have led the Reardan Riots 4-H Club for three years.



TSgt. Mary Weeks and SRA Andrew Biscoe dedicate themselves to preserving the wing's history.

Photo by SSgt. Dave Andersen

Second historian added to staff

The 141st ARW now has two historians. SRA Andrew Biscoe has joined TSgt. Mary Weeks in gathering and documenting the wing's events for the unit's official histories.

Currently, the required histories cover a one-year period. Each history receives a rating from the National Guard Bureau Historian and a copy is sent to the Air Force archive staging area at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

With the wing's units deploying frequently to support the active duty force, the wing historians would like to collect as much data as possible to include in the written histories.

SRA Biscoe was a public affairs specialist for a former SAC bomb wing at Wurtsmith

AFB, Michigan.

He lives in Post Falls, Idaho, and is a reporter for the Post Falls Press as well as a part-time musician.

TSgt. Weeks has been the unit historian since 1991.

Anyone who might have history information pertaining to their units should forward that information to the history office. It is located in room 137 of the wing building. The extension is 7039. You may also e-mail them.

Feel free to stop by and read some of the unit's histories or to peruse through the archives.

Promotions

Colonel

David Avenell 141 LG
Thomas Prenger 141 MDS

Lt Colonel

Carl Blomstrom 116 ARS

Major

Barry Pishko 141 MDS
Rodney Cosgrove 141 LG
Stephen Lippert 116 ARS

2Lt

Ellis Hawks II 141 SF
Therese Anderson 141 ARW
Scott Eklund 141 CE

SMSgt

Jack Powell 141 ARW
Lee Kempffer 141 LG

MSgt

Wayne Deist 141 MXS
Rosemarie Rhodes 141 AGS
Terry Olsen 141 CES
Dale Tronsen 141 SVF
Debra Nadeau 256 CCS
Jody Hatley 141 LSF
Nancy Korotish 141 LSF
Ian Dahl 116 ARS
Toni Bealer 141 CES
Theresa Vance 560 Band
Jason Kamp 560 Band

TSgt

Lyle Johnson 116 ARS
Don Firkins 242 CBCS
Holly Wells 242 CBCS
Troy Irvine 141 LS
David Bishop 141 LS
Rosella Lewis 141 LS
Denis Doucet 141 ARW
Jeffrey Barton 141 CES
Keith Thompson 256 CCS
Kenneth Piedalue 256 CCS
Dannell Fillius 141 CES
Timothy Archer 141 CES
Larry Spaeth 141 SVF

SSgt

Brian Scott II 141 AGS
Berry William 560 Band
Jeffrey Porter 141 MXS
Jessica Kowalczyk 141 SFS
Douglas Roedder 242 CBCS

SRA

Kenneth Williams 141 SFS
Eric Gustafson 141 SFS
Kimberly Domonouski 141 LS
Heather Roger-Gray 141 MXS
Reginald Blacke 242 CBCS
Cindy Ray 256 CCS

New Members

April

SSgt Allen Rubingh 141 CES
SSgt Steven Furfaro 141 MPF
A1C Craig Falk 141 SVF
A1C Ann St Clair 141 SVF
SSgt David Binford 141 SVF
A1C Benjamin Green 141 SFS
A1C Jeffrey Piliik 242 CBCS
SSgt Jason Nichols 141 SVS
SSgt Steven Mestuzzi 141 MDS
SRA Mike Edwards 141 AGS
A1C Hung Bui 141 MSF
TSgt Shaawn Town 141 CES

May

SRA Melissa Dickey 116 ARS
A1C Jeremy Pierce 141 AGS
SRA Jason Kesler 141 CES
SSgt Frank Wachob 141 CES
TSgt Neil Andersen 141 CF
A1C Richard Kay 141 MXS
A1C Stephen Moore 141 MXS
A1C Alexander Cappellano 242 CBCS
A1C Serenity Currie 242 CBCS
SRA Jared Stoyko 242 CBCS
A1C Joshua Anderson 256 CBCS
TSgt David Ward 256 CBCS
AB David Stauffer 560 Band

Retirements

May

TSgt Donald Larsen 256 CBCS
Capt Neil Schmehl 242 CBCS
MSGT Roger Potter 141 MXS
Lt Col Richard Pfaff 116 ARS

Ham Radio Group

A small group has formed during lunch of the Saturday UTAs to explore the world of ham radios. If interested contact Lt. Col. Maxson at 247-7331.

Worship

Every Sunday of the UTA there is a protestant worship service at 0630 in the wing building conference room.

1999 Adjutant General's Trophy

141st Services Flight has won the 1999 Adjutant General's Trophy for the third year in a row.

Habitat for Humanity

Volunteers are needed for a USAA-sponsored Habitat House, with the stipulation that the house be built by military personnel, either active, Guard, Reserve and retired members. For info call Chaplain Glover, 247-2264; SMSgt. Dave Maxwell, ext. 7290; SMSgt. David Clouse, ext. 7297.

Range Unlimited, A History of Aerial Refueling, has been published. This book is dedicated to the aircrew that lost their lives in last year's crash.



In Memory

Retired Colonel Milton "Bud" Poirier passed away. He served in the unit from 1939-1982 beginning as an enlisted member at Felts Field and retired as Deputy Commander of Maintenance (this position is now the Logistics Group CC)

141 Pistol Team won first place

Our pistol team won first place and took the top three individual honors in the small bore competition in the Chief National Guard Bureau National Championships in the Small Bore Pistol competition at Little Rock, Arkansas. Besides being the first place team the following individual awards were taken: TSgt Eric Schaffer, 1st place individual; TSgt Charles Deilke, 2nd place individual; SSgt Donald Manning, Jr., 3rd place individual and SSgt Rick Humphries, 4th place overall. That's awesome!!!

Dining Out will be Sep. 9

The dining out will be held Sep. 9 at the Spokane Country Club. The meal will offer either salmon or prime rib. There will be a guest speaker and dancing with a DJ to end the evening. Tickets start at \$25 per person for airman, \$27 for E-5s and E-6s, \$29 E-7s -E-9s, \$31 O-1s -O-3s and \$33 for O-4s and above. Contact TSgt. Lori Costello for info or tickets at 247-7056.

Garage Sale

The Top Three will be having a garage sale on September 9 during the UTA. This will support the family Christmas party. If you have items in your attic or basement collecting dust here is your chance to get rid of them. The sale is open to the public. It will be held on base, however the location hasn't been determined as of press time. For info call MSGt. Patty Van Abbema, ext. 7170 or MSGt. Libby Hight, ext. 7100.

Retiring?

Anyone wishing to initiate retirement paperwork (AFFM 131) must make an appointment with the 141 MPF Retirement/Separation Section at least 60 days but not more than 90 days prior to the actual effective retirement date. Recently, the Retirements Section at ARPC returned two retirement applications to the 141st MPF due to the effective date being less than 60 days from the date of signature on the AFFM 131. Please contact either MSGt. Jan Thomas at ext. 7054 or MSGt. Kim Soboda at ext. 7059 for scheduling an appointment.

The book costs \$19.95. Maj. Kay Steward is putting together a group order; call 247-7041 to place your order or view the book.

Multicultural Fair exposes military community to other cultures

By Maj. Kay Steward

One of the perks we get for being in the military is having the opportunity to meet so many new people. With the travel opportunities, we are exposed to destinations and cultural awareness far more than the average person.

For the past three years the 141st ARW and the 92nd ARW have jointly hosted a multicultural fair open to military members and their families. Various cultures are represented with music, dance, displays and foods to sample.

This year's fair will be held July 20 at the Deel Community Center on Fairchild AFB from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Besides the fair, we also have the opportunity to learn about other cultures by getting to know people we work with throughout the unit.

I recently had the opportunity to interview a few individuals with some unique backgrounds. One of these individuals is MSgt. Petra Wilson, who was born and raised in Germany. She came to the United States after marrying an American servicemember. She recalls her

English as having been so poor she hardly left the house for six months. After working in a coffee shop her English gradually became better. The one thing she missed the most was the convenience of public transportation available in Germany. Since she couldn't drive, the only places she went were within walking distance. Eventually she took the ASVAB test and visited a recruiter. She joined the Air Force for a better job.

The biggest tradition she upholds is her celebration of Christmas, held on Christmas Eve. She still bakes a lot of German foods, although she says the food still doesn't taste the same because the spices are different. "The fresh bakery smells (in Germany) were so good," says Wilson. Most of her family still lives in Germany, and she visits when she can.

Another member, SMSgt. Charlie Cinq-Mars, supply warehouse supervisor, has quite a diverse background. His father, who is French Canadian and grew up in Rhode Island, met his mother in Panama while he was in the Army. His mother is

Costa Rican and was working in the BX.

The name Cinq-Mars originated in the 1460s when two royal French families married.

His mother, who wanted so badly to become an American citizen, didn't want Spanish spoken in the home. She didn't want what she perceived as bilingual difficulty for her children in school.

Cinq-Mars has also been researching his family's history. "It seems it becomes more important as you get older and you want to tell your kids where you are from." He visited Costa Rica three times while growing up, keeping in touch with 25 aunts and uncles and all the cousins. The internet has also helped him to maintain more contact. One of his cousins is fluent in Spanish and English and translates.

Cinq-Mars says he and his wife emphasize hispanic traditions at Christmas and Easter and birthdays so his children keep their heritage alive.



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